

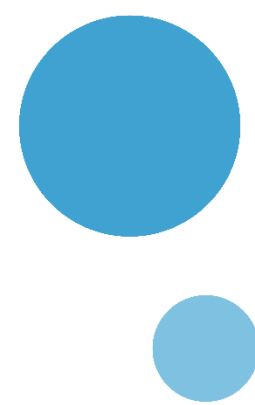
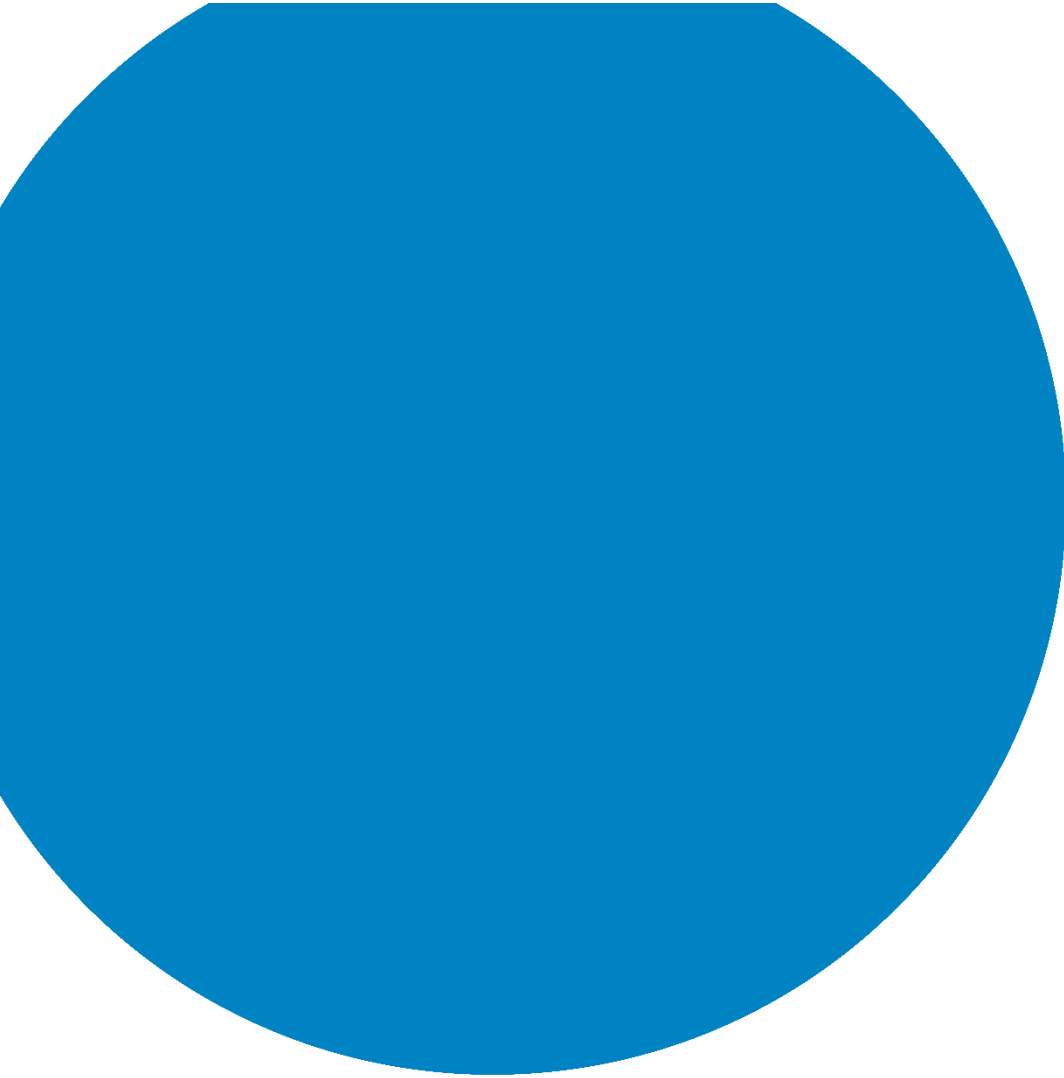
EUROPEAN SINGLE ACCESS POINT (ESAP) – MILESTONES AND EXPECTED INFORMATION

Towards an EU-wide accessible reporting

Factsheet

FACTS.

**REPORTING
APRIL 2026**



HIGHLIGHTS

The European Single Access Point (ESAP) will be established as an EU-wide digital platform providing centralised access to financial and sustainability information disclosed by companies within the European Union. The accounting profession will play a key role in enhancing the transparency, consistency, and reliability of this information. Through ESAP, investors and other stakeholders will be able to access and analyse:

- financial statements and related audit reports
- sustainability statements, and corresponding assurance reports.

This factsheet provides a concise overview of ESAP main milestones and outlines the outstanding elements to be addressed, with a particular focus on the expected reporting requirements.



INTRODUCTION

EU legislation requires companies to disclose a wide range of financial and sustainability information. However, the collection and dissemination of these disclosures are currently fragmented.

The European Single Access Point (ESAP) is set to become the EU-wide platform for gathering financial and sustainability-related data from companies. As envisioned in the [EU Capital Market Union Action Plan](#), ESAP will provide easy access to company information for interested users, including investors.

ESAP requirements will affect companies differently, depending on their activities but also their size.

EU legislation on ESAP was published in the EU Official Journal on 20 December 2023, and the platform is expected to be operational by July 2027, at the latest. Information to be collected by the ESAP will be phased in gradually, with full implementation expected by January 2030.

ESAP OVERVIEW

SCOPE

ESAP will provide access to information from a wide variety of companies, including listed entities, credit institutions, insurance undertakings, investment firms, credit rating agencies, and audit firms. It does not impose any additional reporting requirements; rather, it builds on information already made public in accordance with EU directives and regulations (see Appendix).

IN PRACTICE

ESAP functions as a two-step system in which reporting entities within scope provide relevant information to a designated collection body, which then submits it to the platform. Collection bodies store information submitted by reporting entities. They are required to automate the transfer of this information to ESAP through a single application programming interface (API). Reporting entities remain responsible for the accuracy, completeness, and reliability of the data they submit to the collection bodies.

COLLECTION BODIES

Depending on the type of information, the collection body may be an EU body, office, or agency. It may also be a national body, authority, or register designated under Union legislative acts or by a Member State. European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) will publish and regularly update the list of designated collection bodies on its website.

OTHER FEATURES

ESAP will operate as a web portal with a user-friendly interface and will provide users with free,¹ non-discriminatory access to information, offering features such as a search function, machine translation service, and the ability to extract information, use and re-use information.

WHAT IS NEXT?

ESMA is mandated to establish and operate ESAP by 10 July 2027. The ESAP legislation has amended 20 EU Regulations and 17 EU Directives (see Appendix), which include specific reporting

¹ ESMA may impose fees for specific services, including for services with high maintenance or support costs, if the use of the information is for commercial purposes.

requirements. The timing for the accessibility of relevant information through ESAP has been specified for each legal text.



EUROPEAN SINGLE ACCESS POINT (ESAP) TIMELINE

Chapter 4

1 Directive: Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD)

Chapter 3

9 Regulations: Audit Regulation, Capital Requirements Regulation, European Long-Term Investment Funds (ELTIF) Regulation, EU Green Bond Regulation, Investment Firm Regulation, Money Market Fund Regulation, MiCA, MiFIR, SFTR

13 Directives: Audit Directive, AIFMD Directive, Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive (BRRD), Covered Bond Directive, Capital Requirements Directive, Financial Conglomerates Directive, Insurance Distribution Directive, Investment Firm Directive, Institutions for Occupational Retirement Provision Directive II, MiFID, Solvency II, Shareholders Rights Directive, Takeover Bids Directive

Chapter 2.1

Review report

Chapter 2

9 Regulations: Benchmark Regulation, Credit Rating Agency Regulation, EuSEF, EuVECA, Market Abuse Regulation, PEPP, PRIIPs, SFDR, ESG Credit Rating

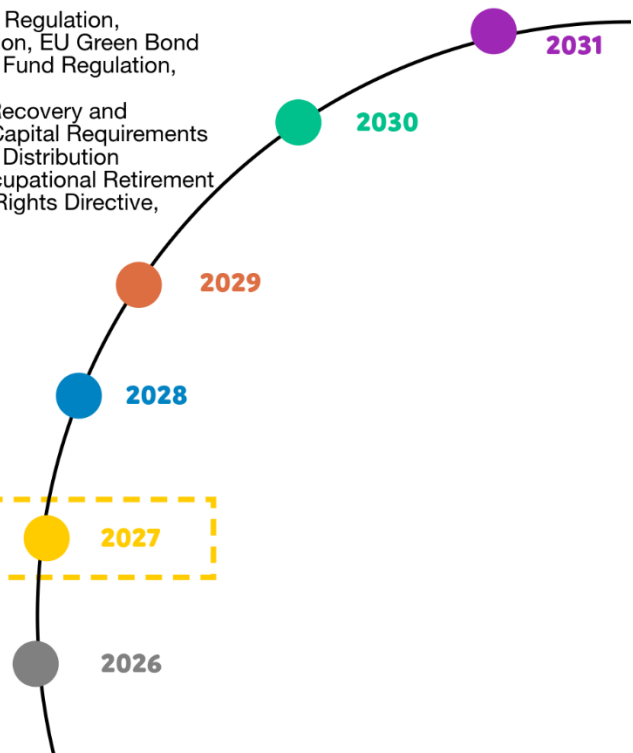
2 Directives: Accounting Directive, UCITS Directive

ESAP go live

Chapter 1: data collection

2 Regulations: Prospectus Regulation, Short Selling Regulation

1 Directive: Transparency Directive



The European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs)² ran a public consultation on [draft Implementing Technical Standards](#), which specify certain tasks of collection bodies and functionalities of ESAP. They revised the standards based on stakeholder comments and submitted the final report to the European Commission (EC) on 28 October 2024. The EC adopted these implementing technical standards through implementing acts [on 11 July 2025](#).

As set out in each EU Regulation and Directive, Member States shall designate collection bodies and ensure that reporting entities obtain a legal entity identifier, where required.

ADDITIONAL ASPECTS

DIGITAL REPORTING FORMATS

Entities are required to provide information in a data-extractable or a machine-readable format to be digitally accessible on ESAP. Machine-readable formats allow software applications to easily

² The three European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs) are: the European Banking Authority (EBA), the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority (EIOPA), and the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA).

identify, recognise, and extract specific data, including individual statements of fact, and the internal structure of the data. Examples of machine-readable include XML, XBRL, XBRL-csv, XBRL-xml, and inline XBRL³.

Data-extractable formats, such as PDF⁴, text files, and HTML, do not necessarily require information to be structured in a way that is easily identifiable by machines.

When machine-readable format is required, companies will need to use appropriate software solutions to create and submit digital files containing the relevant information.

INFORMATION QUALITY

Collection bodies are required to perform automated validations and reject submissions that do not meet the necessary requirements, ensuring consistent information quality. They must also assist companies in submitting information when needed.

Specifically, collection bodies are responsible for ensuring the authenticity, availability, integrity, and non-repudiation of information submitted by companies and accessible on ESAP. Non-repudiation means reporting entities receive reasonable assurance that their submissions were delivered and that the recipient has proof of the entity's identity.

ESMA will also perform automated validations to verify that all information provided to ESAP by collection bodies complies with applicable requirements.

Furthermore, ESMA is responsible for putting in place an IT security policy for ESAP to safeguard the authenticity, availability, integrity, and non-repudiation of accessible information, as well as the protection of personal data.

VOLUNTARY SUBMISSION

The ESAP legislation allows for the voluntary submission of financial and non-financial information. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) may particularly benefit from this, as it can enhance their visibility to potential investors and increase or diversify funding opportunities.

Voluntary submission will be possible from 10 January 2030, and each Member State shall designate at least one collection body to gather voluntarily submitted information. This information should adhere to uniform formatting and be comparable in substance. The ESAs will develop draft implementing technical standards to support this process.

MONITORING IMPLEMENTATION

ESAP is a major EU initiative that requires the involvement and contributions of multiple stakeholders at both EU and Member State levels. To support effective implementation, EU policymakers have embedded monitoring mechanisms to track issues and take necessary actions as required.

Collection bodies are expected to notify ESMA of any substantial practical difficulties. ESMA will monitor ESAP's functioning and publish an annual report based on a set of qualitative and quantitative indicators including assessments of:

- accessibility, quality, usability, reliability and timeliness of the information on ESAP

³ As clarified by the [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2025/1339](#) of 10 July 2025 laying down ESAP implementing technical standards.

⁴ Scan PDFs are not considered data extractable format

- whether ESAP meets its objectives
- end-user satisfaction

By 10 January 2029, the EC shall submit a report to the European Parliament (EP) and the Council on the implementation, functioning and effectiveness of ESAP, considering the annual reports prepared by ESMA. The EC may postpone the inclusion of certain information on ESAP for up to 36 months, depending on the severity and extent of technical challenges identified in this report.

Additionally, ESMA may conduct periodic reviews of the IT security policy relevant to ESAP in light of evolving cybersecurity trends.

INFORMATION REPORTED ON ESAP

As noted above, ESAP does not create additional reporting requirements but instead ensures that certain information is accessible via platform. The ESAP legislation amended several EU legislative acts, including the Accounting Directive, the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD), the Transparency Directive, the Audit Regulation, and the Audit Directive to enhance the transparency of EU capital market information. Accordingly, the following information should be made accessible via ESAP (Refer to Annex 1 for more details):

- management reports, including sustainability related disclosures in accordance with ESRS
- annual financial reports
- audit and assurance reports
- risk-based human rights and environmental due diligence reports
- prudential requirements for credit institutions
- the exercise of certain rights of shareholders in listed companies
- prospectus to be published when securities are offered to the public or admitted to trading on a regulated market

[...]

DIRECTIVE 2004/109/EC (TRANSPARENCY DIRECTIVE)

The EU [Transparency Directive](#) aims to harmonise the disclosure obligations of issuers whose securities are admitted to trading on a regulated market within the EU, in order to strengthen capital market transparency and investor protection.

Article 23a requires Member States to ensure that, from 10 July 2026, when an issuer makes public any regulated information under the Transparency Directive (including its annual financial report), it simultaneously submits that information to the officially appointed mechanism (OAM) - the national collection body - in digital format with the relevant metadata, so that it can be made accessible on ESAP.

This information includes:

- A management report
- Audited financial statements
- Half-yearly financial report
- Report on payments to governments

DIRECTIVE 2013/34/EU (ACCOUNTING DIRECTIVE, INCLUDING CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING DIRECTIVE (CSRD))

The EU [Accounting Directive](#) provides the legal framework for the preparation of annual financial statements and management reports.

Under the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)⁵, companies within scope are required to report sustainability information in accordance with the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS) in their management reports. They will use the digital taxonomy to be developed by ESMA to file their sustainability statements in a machine-readable (XBRL) format.

According to ESAP legislation, from 10 January 2028, the following will be made available via ESAP:

- (consolidated) management reports, including sustainability disclosures
- annual (consolidated) financial statements
- audit and assurance reports
- the (consolidated) report on payments to governments
- the information required in Article 8 of the Taxonomy Regulation.

Companies that already successfully submitted this information to an Officially Appointed Mechanism pursuant to Article 23a of Directive 2004/109/EC (Transparency Directive) are deemed to have fulfilled these requirements. Otherwise, Member States must submit this information in a data extractable format and understood by the ESAP platform, along with additional details (metadata) such as company names, legal entity identifiers, size categories, industry sectors, types of information, and indications of whether personal data is included.

The EC may specify additional metadata and data structuring requirements and determine which information requires a machine-readable format⁶. If necessary, the EC will also provide guidelines to ensure the accuracy of the metadata submitted.

[The CSDDD](#) establishes a sustainable corporate behavioural framework to ensure that companies' activities are aligned with the EU's sustainability objectives. It requires companies to identify and address adverse human rights and environmental impacts throughout their "chains of activities". Companies will also need to develop transition plans to ensure that their business model and strategy are aligned with the transition to a sustainable economy.

Article 16 requires companies to report on these matters by publishing an annual statement on their website.

From **1 January 2031**, Member States shall ensure that companies, when making this annual statement public, submit it simultaneously to the designated collection body so that it can be made accessible via ESAP.

Member States shall also ensure that the information contained in the annual statement complies with the following requirements:

- a) it is submitted in a data extractable format, or, where required by Union or national law, in a machine-readable format
- b) it is accompanied by the following metadata

⁶ To be delayed as the EC [announced](#) the de-prioritisation of 115 non-essential Level 2 (delegated or implementing) acts.

- i. all the names of the company to which the information relates
- ii. the legal entity identifier of the company
- iii. the size of the company by category
- iv. the industry sector(s) of the economic activities of the company
- v. the type of information
- vi. an indication of whether the information includes personal data.

REGULATION (EU) NO 537/2014 (AUDIT REGULATION)

[The EU Audit Regulation](#) applies to audits of public interest entities (PIEs). According to Article 13, auditors and audit firms of PIEs shall publish an annual transparency report on their website no later than four months after the end of each financial year. Paragraph 2 of this Article lists the mandatory elements to be included in a transparency report.

Effective from 10 January 2030, statutory auditors and audit firms within the scope of this Regulation shall also submit their transparency reports to the relevant collection body designated by the Member State. In addition, audit firms operating as legal persons are required to obtain a legal entity identifier.

The ESAP legislation grants implementing powers to the EC, following consultation with the Committee of European Auditing Oversight Bodies (CEAOB), to specify:

- any additional metadata accompanying the information in transparency reports
- the organisation of data included in transparency reports
- which information needs to be in a machine-readable format, and, in such cases, which machine-readable format is to be used by audit firms.

DIRECTIVE 2006/43/EC (AUDIT DIRECTIVE)

[The EU Audit Directive](#) applies to all statutory audits. Under this Directive, National Competent Authorities (NCAs) publish on their official website administrative sanctions imposed for breach of the provisions of this Directive or the EU Audit Regulation. This publication should include information on the type and nature of the breach and the identity of the natural or legal person on whom the sanction has been imposed.

According to ESAP legislation, from 10 January 2030, sanctions and measures⁷ reported by NCAs shall also be made accessible via ESAP. For that purpose, the relevant collection body shall be the NCA in accordance with the EU Audit Directive.

The information must be submitted in a data-extractable format and accompanied by the following metadata:

- all names of the statutory auditor or audit firm to which the information relates
- where available (i.e., for legal persons), the legal entity identifier of the audit firm
- an indication of whether the information contains personal data.

⁷ Also the public register under article 15 of the accounting directive

APPENDIX

The ESAP legislation has amended 20 EU Regulations and 17 EU Directives. The two tables below outline four different stages of ESAP implementation — 2026, 2028, 2030 and 2031. Additionally, they include a list of articles affected by ESAP for each Regulation and Directive.

TABLE 1: REGULATIONS

	REGULATION	SUBJECT	AFFECTED ARTICLES
2026	(EU) No 2017/1129	Prospectus Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1(4) points (f) and (g) • 1(5) first subparagraph, points (e) and (f) • 8(5) • 9(4) • 10(2) • 17(2) • 21(1) and (9) • 23(1) • 42(1)
	(EU) No 236/2012	Short Selling Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2, point (3) • 6(1)
2028	(EC) No 1060/2009	Credit Rating Agencies Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5(3) • 8(1), (6) and (7) • 8a(1) and (3) • 8d(2) • 10(1) and (4) • 11(1) and (2) • 11a(1) and (2) • 12 • 18(3) • 24(5) • 36d(1)
	(EU) No 345/2013	European Venture Capital Fund (EuVECA) Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16(1) • 17(1)
	(EU) No 346/2013	European Social Entrepreneurship Funds (EuSEF) Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17(1) • 18(1)
	(EU) No 596/2014	Market Abuse Regulation (MAR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17(1) and (2) • 19(3) • 34(1)
	(EU) No 1286/2014	Packaged Retail and Insurance-based Investment Products (PRIIPs) Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5(1) • 27(1) • 29(1)
	(EU) No 2016/1011	Benchmark Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4(5) • 11(1), point (c) • 12(3) • 13(1) • 25(7) • 26(3) • 27(1) • 28(1) • 36 • 45(1)

	REGULATION	SUBJECT	AFFECTED ARTICLES
2028	(EU) No 2019/1238	Pan-European Personal Pension Product (PEPP) Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26(1) • 63(4) • 65(6) • 69(1) and (4)
	(EU) No 2017/1129	Prospectus Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3(1) and (2) • 4(1), (3), (4) and (5) • 5(1) • 10(1)
	(EU) No 2024/3005	Transparency and Integrity of ESG rating activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11(3) • 35(6) • 38(1)
2030	(EU) No 575/2013	Capital Requirements Regulation (CRR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part Eight
	(EU) No 537/2014	Audit Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13
	(EU) No 600/2014	Markets in Financial Instruments Regulation (MiFIR) Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14(6) • 15(1), second subparagraph • 18(4) • 27(1) • 34 • 40(5) • 42(5) • 44(2) • 45(6) • 48
	(EU) No 2015/760	European Long-Term Investment Fund (ELTIF) Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3(3), second subparagraph
	(EU) No 2015/2365	Securities Financing Transactions Regulation (SFTR) Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12(1) • 22(4), point (b) • 25(3) • 26(1) and (4) • 8(3) • 19(8) • 25(1), second sentence • 25(2), second sentence
	(EU) No 2017/1131	Money Market Funds (MMFs) Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4(7)
	(EU) No 2019/2033	Investment Firms Regulation (IFR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part Six
	(EU) No 2023/1114	Markets in Crypto-Assets (MiCA) Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 88(1) • 109 • 110
(EU) No 2023/2631	EU Green Bond Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 • 20 • 21 	

TABLE 2: DIRECTIVES

	DIRECTIVE	SUBJECT	AFFECTED ARTICLES
2026	2004/109/EC	Transparency Directive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21(1) • 29(1)
	2009/65/EC	Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities (UCITS) Directive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6(1), second subparagraph • 68(1) • 78(1) • 99b(1)
2028	2013/34/EU	Accounting Directive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 • 40a(2) • 40d • 45
	2002/87/EC	Financial Conglomerates Directive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9(4)
2030	2004/25/EC	Takeover Bids Directive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4(2), point (c) • 5(4) • 6(1) and (2) • 9(5)
	2006/43/EC	Audit Directive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 • 30c
	2007/36/EC	Shareholder Rights Directive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3g(1) • 3h(1) and (2) • 3j(1) and (2) • 9a(7) • 9b(5) • 9c(2) and (7) • 14(2)
	2009/138/EC	Solvency II Directive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25a • 51(1) • 256(1) • 271(1) • 280(1)
	2011/61/EU	Alternative Investment Fund Managers Directive (AIFMD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7(5), second subparagraph
	2014/59/EU	Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive (BRRD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26(1) • 29(1) • 33a(8) • 35(1) • 45i(3) • 83(4) • 112(1)

	DIRECTIVE	SUBJECT	AFFECTED ARTICLES
2030	2013/36/EU	Capital Requirements Directive (CRD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 68(1) and (2) • 131(12)
	2014/65/EU	Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MiFID) II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5(3) • 18(10), fourth sentence • 27(3) and (6) • 29(3) • 32(2), first subparagraph • 33(3), points (c), (d), and (f) • 46(2) • 52(2) • 58(1), point (a) • 71(1) and (2)
	2016/97/EU	Insurance Distribution Directive (IDD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 31(1) and (2)
	2016/2341/EU	Institutions for Occupational Retirement Provision (IORP II) Directive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23(2) • 29 • 30 • 48(4)
	2019/2034/EU	Investment Firms Directive (IFD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 • 44
	2019/2162/EU	Covered Bond Directive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 • 24 • 26(1), points (b) and (c)
2031	2024/1760/EU	Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16(1)



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